Application No.

10/780,350

Filed

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: February 16, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 62-86 were pending in the application. By this paper, Claims 62-86 have been

cancelled without prejudice, and new Claims 87-206 added. Hence, Claims 87-206 are presented

for examination herein.

Amendments to Specification

By this paper, Applicant has amended the specification to include the patent number of

the parent application hereto (now issued), and has also amended the Abstract of the disclosure to

meet the 150-word limit, and improve its clarity. Additionally, Applicant herein corrects a

previous error in the Title.

Applicant submits that these amendments add no new matter.

New Claims

Four (4) new independent apparatus claims (Claims 87, 106, 125, and 161) are presented

for examination herein. These four apparatus claims differ in scope but correspond generally to

the subject matter to the four apparatus claims in U.S. Patent No. 6,714,536, the parent hereto.

That is, independent apparatus Claims 87, 106, 125, and 161 respectively differ in scope but

correspond generally to the four issued apparatus Claims 31, 36, 50 and 55 of U.S. Patent No.

20 6,714,536.

All of the claims presented herein (independent and dependent) are fully supported by the

specification and these claims add no new matter. Independent Claims 87, 106, 125, and 161

draw support from, inter alia, Figures 1, and 4-6 of the specification, and their supporting

discussions. Support for the dependent claims can be found at, inter alia, Figures 1, 2, 4-13 and

their supporting discussions.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant has filed contemporaneously herewith an information disclosure statement

(IDS) and PTO Form 1449 disclosing sixteen (16) references for review by the Examiner.

-20-

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:

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5

10

15

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Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 87-206 as presented herein distinguish over these references as well as the other art of record, and hence define patentable subject matter.

Terminal Disclaimer

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer compliant with 37 C.F.R. §1.321, in order to overcome any prospective double-patenting rejections relating to the Claims of U.S. Patent 6,714,536. Should such double-patenting rejection be deemed not proper by the Examiner, Applicant requests that the attached disclaimer not be entered.

Applicant therefore respectfully submits that Claims 87-206 as presented herein are in condition for allowance, and requests that the Examiner pass this case to issuance at the earliest possible opportunity.

Other Remarks

Applicant hereby specifically reserves the right to prosecute claims of different or broader scope in a continuation or divisional application.

Applicant notes that any claim additions or cancellations made herein are made solely for the purposes of more clearly and particularly describing and claiming the invention, and not for purposes of overcoming art or for patentability or narrowing the claims. The Examiner should infer no (i) adoption of a position with respect to patentability, (ii) change in the Applicant's position with respect to any claim or subject matter of the invention, or (iii) acquiescence in any way to any position taken by the Examiner, based on such additions or cancellations.

Furthermore, any remarks made with respect to a particular claim or claims are intended to be limited only to such claim or claims.

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Application No.

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Filed

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If the Examiner has any questions or comments which may be resolved over the telephone, he is requested to call the undersigned at (858) 675-1670.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

GAZDZINSKI & ASSOCIATES

Dated: April 29, 2004

Dated: April <u>29</u>, 200

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